

Preliminary flood risk assessment: Royal Borough of Greenwich

This addendum by the Royal borough of Greenwich (2017) updates the council's preliminary flood risk assessment report published in 2011. Read the addendum in conjunction with the [preliminary assessment report](#).

Addendum

The preliminary flood risk assessment (PFRA) and flood risk areas (FRAs) for the Royal Borough of Greenwich were reviewed during 2017, using all relevant current flood risk data and information.

Past flood risk

Since 2011, 11 floods have been reported in the Royal Borough of Greenwich. Of these, one flood stands out as having significant consequences with 23 properties affected by the flooding. This flood however was found to be from a fluvial source and so did not contribute to the understanding of flood risk within the responsibility of the lead local flood authority.

The understanding of significant flood risk has not changed as a result of this since the original PFRA in 2011.

Future flood risk

The Environment Agency Risk of Flooding from Surface Water Map has further refined understanding of the risk posed by surface water flooding. The mapping is replicated within the Map 1A-D of the PFRA update. It is acknowledged that this mapping was carried out at a national scale and is therefore not appropriate for site-specific assessment; however it improves the Royal Borough's understanding of key areas of surface water risk, including locations of flow paths.

The 'heat map'¹ provided by the Environment Agency to support this PFRA review provides a high level assessment of the potential change in flood risk as a result of more intense rainfall events. Whilst a specific climate change scenario has not been mapped, the 1 in 1000 year event has been used as a proxy for a 1 in 100 year event including a climate change allowance. The assessment indicates that significant areas of the Royal Borough of Greenwich may experience increased surface water flood risk in the future as a result of climate change.

The British Geological Survey (BGS) Susceptibility to Groundwater Flooding dataset provides a strategic-level assessment of groundwater flood risk based on analysis of potential groundwater levels and the spatial distribution of geology with sufficient permeability to allow groundwater flooding to occur. This dataset is included within the Royal Borough of Greenwich updated PFRA and is beneficial in gaining a better understanding of groundwater flooding across the borough both at the surface and below the surface where it could still impact on basements.

Flood risk areas (FRAs)

The following FRA has been identified for the purposes of the Flood Risk Regulations (2009) second planning cycle:

- Greater London

¹ Information provided by the Environment Agency to support LLFAs in reviewing PFRAs in 2017

Other changes

The Royal Borough of Greenwich is an active participant in the South East London Flood Partnership, with the EA, Thames Water, and neighbouring boroughs Bexley, Bromley and Lewisham. Over the reporting period the Partnership has collaborated on sub-regional flood strategy, and provided a forum for sharing of knowledge and data between members.

**Royal Borough of Greenwich
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